

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Blackburn et al.
Serial No. : TBA, Continuation of PCT/GB02/03259 Group Art Unit: TBA
Filed : January 13, 2004 Examiner: TBA
For : FILTER ELEMENT Customer No. : 21003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: ER589237432US

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir or Madam:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application, which is a Continuation Application of PCT/GB02/03259, filed July 16, 2002 that claims a priority date of July 16, 2001.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please insert the Abstract attached after page 35 of the specification on a separate sheet.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 after the title:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS